

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE DIVISION

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LEWIS COSBY, KENNETH R. MARTIN,
as beneficiary of the Kenneth Ray Martin
Roth IRA, and MARTIN WEAKLEY on
behalf of themselves and all others
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

No. 3:16-cv-00121

KPMG, LLP,

Defendant.

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April 12, 2019

9:01 a.m.

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION of CHAD COFFMAN, held
at the law offices of MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP,
340 Madison Avenue, New York, New York, before
Eleanor Greenhouse, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary
Public within and for the State of New York.

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A P P E A R A N C E S:

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ALSO PRESENT:

Mukarram Attari, Charles River Associates

Allison Hart, Paralegal, McDermott Will & Emery

1 C. Coffman

2 THE VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the
3 video deposition of Chad Coffman in the
4 matter of Lewis Cosby et al. versus KPMG,
5 LLP. This deposition is being held at
6 McDermott Will & Emery LLP on April 12, 2019
7 at 9:01:00 a.m.

8 My name is Darrak Lighty from Reporters
9 Central and I'm the video specialist. The
10 court reporter today is Eleanor Greenhouse,
11 also associated with Reporters Central.

12 Counsel will now state their
13 appearances for the record.

14 MS. POSNER: Laura Posner, Cohen
15 Milstein, Sellers & Toll PLLC, for the
16 Plaintiff.

17 MR. BALLARD: I'm Greg Ballard, from
18 McDermott Will & Emery, for KPMG, LLP. I
19 have Allison Hart, a paralegal here, also
20 from McDermott, with me.

21 MR. ATTARI: Mukarram Attari, Charles
22 River Associates.

23 MR. DAVIDSON: Paul Davidson, Waller
24 Lansden, on behalf of KPMG.

25 THE VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Will the court

1 C. Coffman

2 reporter please swear in the witness.

3 C H A D C O F F M A N, called as a witness,
4 having been duly sworn by a Notary Public,
5 was examined and testified as follows:

6 (Exhibit 25, March 15, 2019 expert
7 report of Chad Coffman, marked for
8 identification, as of this date.)

9 EXAMINATION BY

10 MR. BALLARD:

11 Q. I'm handing you Exhibit 25. What is
12 Exhibit 25?

13 A. This appears to be a copy of the report
14 I prepared and submitted in this matter.

15 Q. Did you sign this report on March 15,
16 2019?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Does Exhibit 25 contain a complete and
19 accurate statement of your opinions as you hold
20 them today in this matter?

21 A. Yes. It summarizes the opinions, the
22 overarching opinions I've reached. Within the
23 report there are a lot of sub-opinions as well, and
24 obviously my background and experience contributed
25 in a lot of ways to some of the analyses, but the

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2 everything, but I would have looked at that issue.

3 Q. This was important to you because those
4 are the four of 19 instances that you referred to
5 repeatedly through your report and you use it in
6 your bar charts and you use it everywhere; right?

7 MS. POSNER: Objection. Misstates the
8 report.

9 A. I don't know that I use it everywhere.
10 There's a table that I find four of the 17
11 significant and I state that in the text as well.

12 Q. Did you look at the question carefully?
13 Let me rephrase that. For the 17 events that you
14 address in your event study for the common stock,
15 did you look carefully to make sure you were
16 getting the right dates?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Because that's important to your
19 analysis?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. I want to ask some questions about the
22 Cammer factors so why don't you turn to page 14 of
23 your report. The first factor you have listed here
24 is trading volume. How significant is trading
25 volume as one of the factors?

1 C. Coffman

2 securities analysts. It's not suggesting there's a
3 big difference between are there 15 analysts or 16
4 analysts or three analysts or four analysts.

5 It's less of a strict correlation than
6 is there just qualitatively evidence that there are
7 analysts covering the stock.

8 Q. Would you say this factor weighs in
9 favor of a finding of efficiency if an
10 insignificant number of analysts are covering a
11 stock?

12 A. I don't know how you would define
13 insignificant. I certainly think it would not
14 weigh towards efficiency if there weren't any
15 analysts covering a stock or there was just one.
16 What significant means, I'm just not sure.

17 Q. You've quoted this language here that
18 says that it would be persuasive to allege a
19 significant number of securities analysts. What is
20 your view of what a significant number of
21 securities analysts would be?

22 A. I guess I don't have a specific
23 threshold in mind. I mean, in this particular
24 case, as I've identified on Exhibit 4, there were
25 15 separate analysts that issued reports on the

1 C. Coffman

2 stock. At least a half dozen issued more than ten
3 reports on the stock, and as I also note, my source
4 for analysts' reports certainly doesn't cover all
5 of the analyst reports that may have been out
6 there, so the evidence in this case was sufficient
7 that there was, in my view, a significant number of
8 analysts covering the stock and I didn't need to
9 think exactly what that threshold was.

10 Q. So you don't have a preset idea in your
11 mind about what would be a significant number in a
12 particular context, but you think that 15 certainly
13 meets the threshold? Is that what you said?

14 A. I think 15 certainly meets that
15 threshold. I think as long as there's evidence of
16 significant analyst coverage of a company, that
17 this factor supports market efficiency, and I
18 demonstrate that there was significant analyst
19 coverage during the analysis period.

20 Q. You said if there was only one analyst,
21 that wouldn't be significant, and 15 is
22 significant. Can you give us any closer idea of
23 where the threshold would be for significance in
24 your mind? 5, 12, 10, 14, 2?

25 A. Again, as I describe within this

1 C. Coffman

2 section, you know, focusing on the specific number
3 is not really even what the Cammer factor was
4 really getting at.

5 The question is -- as an economic
6 matter, if you look at the language in the Cammer
7 factor, it says, "The existence of such analysts
8 would imply, for example, the auditor reports were
9 closely reviewed by investment professionals, who
10 would in turn make buy/sell recommendations to
11 client investors."

12 Now there are many different outlets
13 for people to get information about companies and
14 analysis of companies, not just analyst reports.
15 So again, I think the -- there could be an
16 over-focus on just the number of analyst reports,
17 so I don't have in my mind a very specific
18 threshold.

19 And the relevant question is, is there
20 evidence that there was significant analyst
21 coverage of Miller Energy securities during the
22 class period, and I concluded there was.

23 Q. Do you remember my question?

24 A. I think the question was, is there a
25 specific number that I have in mind when thinking

1 C. Coffman

2 about what significant means.

3 Q. So is it yes or is it no?

4 MS. POSNER: Objection. Asked and
5 answered.

6 Q. I think it's no.

7 A. I don't have a specific number in mind.
8 Again, I believe I've answered the question in my
9 report whether there was evidence of significant
10 analyst coverage during the analysis period.

11 Q. You've said one is not significant, 15
12 is significant, and you can't be any more specific
13 than that?

14 MS. POSNER: Objection.

15 MR. BALLARD: This is your chance.

16 MS. POSNER: Objection.

17 A. I'm not offering a bright line
18 threshold for what is significant and what is not
19 significant.

20 Q. Does quality of the analyst coverage
21 matter?

22 A. Theoretically it could.

23 Q. Not all analysts are equal; right?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. So one analyst might work for a massive

1 C. Coffman

2 Q. Some of them you've never heard of
3 before; right?

4 A. I don't know that I've never heard of
5 them before, but they're not that familiar to me.

6 Q. What is SADIF Analytics?

7 A. I don't know.

8 Q. Do you know the name of the analyst, if
9 there actually was one there?

10 A. Not as I sit here, no. I would have to
11 go back and look at it.

12 Q. Are you confident that there was an
13 actual analyst with a human being behind each of
14 these entities here?

15 MS. POSNER: Objection.

16 A. If you're asking me if there's an
17 individual analyst that is putting their name on
18 the report, I just don't recall.

19 Q. Do you ever make any effort to
20 distinguish between analyst reports that are
21 created by actual human beings who create analyst
22 reports versus machine generated things that are
23 just spit out by computers?

24 MS. POSNER: Objection.

25 A. Within the context of this analysis,

1 C. Coffman

2 given the number of reports that were here from
3 entities I am familiar with, I didn't make an
4 attempt to do that. In the past, I would say there
5 is a qualitative difference between those things.

6 Q. Would you typically exclude machine
7 generated analyst reports from this kind of
8 analysis?

9 A. I don't know if I would typically
10 exclude them.

11 Q. Should they be excluded?

12 A. I don't know that they should be
13 excluded. I think, you know, at an extreme, if
14 that was the only -- if the only evidence of
15 analyst reports were those types of reports, that
16 would -- that would be something I would certainly
17 consider and I would view that as less
18 qualitatively good evidence of analyst coverage.
19 But that wasn't -- I never really got to that
20 question in this case because it's clear there were
21 dozens of high-quality analyst reports issued
22 during this period on Miller Energy.

23 Q. You've never looked at how many of
24 these analysts, these entities you list as
25 analysts, were actually machine generated things?

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2 MS. POSNER: Objection.

3 A. Well, I don't know that I ever -- I
4 don't know that I performed a quantification of
5 that, but in looking through the analyst reports in
6 this case, I mean, there were certainly I believe
7 examples of that, but I think there were lots of
8 examples of analyst reports with -- from firms I
9 recognize as well.

10 Q. Do you know what Wall Street Transcript
11 is?

12 A. I believe that specific report in this
13 case is the transcript of an interview somebody had
14 with an executive from Miller Energy. That's my
15 recollection of that.

16 Q. So how is that an analyst report?

17 A. Well, a lot of analysts, important
18 information in a lot of analyst reports is when
19 they have discussions with management. So an
20 interview by management to me is clearly providing
21 new relevant information to the market, and so I
22 didn't see a problem in treating that as an analyst
23 report.

24 Q. You would treat a word-for-word
25 transcript of an interview with the CEO of Miller

1 C. Coffman

2 Energy as an analyst report?

3 MS. POSNER: Objection.

4 A. It's certainly evidence of interest in
5 following the company and what the company is
6 saying about its business. It's not what I would
7 consider a traditional analyst report in the case
8 of, you know, an analyst providing a buy or sell
9 recommendation, but it's certainly a report that is
10 providing important information to the market.

11 Q. The Wall Street Transcript shouldn't be
12 on your list here; should it?

13 A. I disagree.

14 Q. It's your expert opinion that the Wall
15 Street Transcript listed on your Exhibit 4 is an
16 analyst report, that's your testimony as an expert
17 sitting here under oath?

18 A. I'm saying -- I think I've said in my
19 prior answer it's not what would be considered a
20 traditional analyst report, but it's certainly a
21 source of information and much of what analysts do
22 is provide information, including results of
23 meetings with management of public companies. So
24 the transcript of an interview somebody had is
25 providing useful information to the market.

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2 I would agree that it's not what is
3 traditionally considered an analyst report but I
4 think it's relevant to list it on this exhibit.

5 Q. Don't companies, when they make
6 statements like that, file them in Form 8-Ks
7 typically?

8 MS. POSNER: Objection.

9 A. Sometimes they do.

10 Q. So why don't you --

11 A. Let me finish my answer.

12 Q. Go ahead.

13 A. There are certainly times they do.
14 There are times that statements and interviews or
15 presentations by companies are not in 8-Ks.

16 Q. When a company makes a public statement
17 and discloses it in an 8-K, why don't you include
18 that as an analyst report?

19 A. Because that's not a third party
20 showing interest in the company.

21 Q. So you would say there's something
22 substantially different between this Wall Street
23 Transcript publication and a company filing a
24 public statement, the same public statement, with
25 the SEC?

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2 A. Again, it's a third party spending
3 economic resources to go out and perform an
4 interview and report it to the market. So that is
5 demonstrating interest by a third party in the
6 securities of the company and the company, itself.

7 Q. Do you know if you have any entities on
8 your list here that are double counted?

9 A. What do you mean by double counted?

10 Q. When a company changes its name.

11 A. I don't think any of the reports are
12 double counted.

13 Q. You said there are 15 analysts covering
14 this stock. If one of them is an entity that
15 simply changed its name, it should be 14; right?

16 A. That's possible. I don't know that I
17 can exclude that possibility, but again, I think
18 the point of this analysis was not to create a
19 perfect list of the analysts and the reports. It
20 was to evaluate whether there is evidence of
21 significant analyst coverage and I believe I've
22 done that, and I've attempted to quantify, you
23 know, the number of reports and list who the
24 companies were that purportedly issued those
25 reports, and so I think I've done a fair job at

1 C. Coffman

2 showing what data I relied upon to reach the
3 conclusion that there was significant analyst
4 coverage.

5 Q. What was the first date of your
6 analysis period?

7 A. I believe it's August 29, 2011, but let
8 me double-check that. Yes, August 29, 2011.

9 Q. How many analysts were covering the
10 stock on that date?

11 A. I don't know that I specifically know
12 the answer to that. I know on that date, I
13 believe, or right around that date, there was a
14 conference call where there were -- there was at
15 least one analyst who announced and at least a
16 second one who was asking questions on the call,
17 but I don't know that I have a -- there may have
18 been others. I just don't know.

19 Q. On August 29, 2011, the beginning of
20 the analysis period, excluding machine generated
21 junk --

22 MS. POSNER: Objection.

23 Q. -- how many analysts were covering the
24 stock; do you know?

25 A. I don't know specifically how many were

1 C. Coffman

2 covering the company because again, as I said, to
3 conclude that there was significant analyst
4 coverage during the analysis period, I pulled down
5 the complete list of what is listed in Investec I
6 know that is an under-representation of all analyst
7 reports so I don't have a specific number.

8 Q. If there was only one analyst covering
9 the stock for the first, say, full year of the
10 analysis period, that would be an indication that
11 this factor should count against efficiency;
12 correct?

13 A. Can I have that read back, please.

14 (Record read.)

15 A. I think if there were a single analyst
16 covering the stock for some period of the analysis
17 period, it would be fair to say that factor alone
18 doesn't provide supporting evidence. You would
19 still want to look at all the other factors, so I
20 don't think that counts towards inefficiency. It's
21 not some indicator of inefficiency, but I think
22 that would be fairly weak evidence in terms of that
23 factor, in isolation, providing economic evidence
24 of efficiency.

25 Q. Did you see any analyst reports

1 C. Coffman

2 either on the NYSE or other exchanges throughout
3 the country where the security can trade.

4 So to me it refers to third parties who
5 are essentially making a market by offering quotes
6 in the market.

7 Q. Do you know who the market makers were
8 for Miller Energy's securities?

9 A. Not as I sit here, I don't know the
10 particular firms or names of who the market makers
11 were, no.

12 Q. Do you know how many there were?

13 A. I think there's a function within
14 Bloomberg that you can ask how many market makers
15 there were for common stocks, so for the common
16 stock, I believe there were 73 different market
17 makers listed for the class period, for the
18 analysis period. I cite that in Footnote 41. And
19 I'm sorry, let me take a step back.

20 The data for that, that's why I had 41
21 is -- the data for that was only available starting
22 January 1st, 2014. But by -- as I describe
23 throughout this factor, by virtue of trading on the
24 NYSE, there's essentially a guarantee by the
25 exchange that there's a specialist who is serving

1 C. Coffman

2 as a market maker at all times.

3 Q. Aside from the designated market maker
4 that every New York Stock Exchange stock has, do
5 you know at this point the identity of any other
6 market makers for Miller Energy's preferred stock?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Do you know if there were any market
9 makers for Miller Energy's preferred stock?

10 A. I don't know that for certain. Again,
11 I think it's critical to understand that the Cammer
12 factor, itself, talks about counting market makers
13 as a relevant thing to do in over-the-counter
14 markets without volume reporting.

15 That's certainly not the case for
16 Miller Energy securities. They did trade on the
17 exchange and I showed, in fact, for one, there was
18 substantial volume so there was a lot of market
19 making activity going on in all three securities.
20 But I don't specifically know the identity or
21 number of market makers for the preferred
22 securities.

23 MR. BALLARD: Let take a short break.

24 THE VIDEO TECHNICIAN: We're going off
25 the record. The time is 11:07 a.m.

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2 (Recess taken.)

3 THE VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This begins
4 Media Unit No. 2. The time is 11:20 a.m.
5 We're back on the record.

6 Q. Mr. Coffman, do you still have Exhibit
7 25 in your hands?

8 A. I do.

9 Q. Turning to page 21, you have a section
10 here on Cammer factor 4, SEC Form S-3 eligibility;
11 right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And toward the end of paragraph 45, you
14 indicate that "Eligibility to file a Form S-3 is
15 confirmatory evidence of efficiency, not a
16 requirement. Interpreted in this way, the standard
17 makes sense as an indicator of efficiency."

18 What did you mean by that?

19 A. I guess I mean that looking at whether
20 a firm is Form S-3 eligible is a fairly indirect
21 measure and is essentially, based on the logic in
22 the Cammer factor and as I describe here, it's a
23 proxy for the quantity of publicly available
24 information about a company that is outstanding.

25 So again, if a company is not S-3

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2 eligible, that certainly doesn't scream
3 inefficiency simply because it's a fairly indirect
4 measure, but when they are eligible, again, it's I
5 think a confirmatory factor, but certainly not a
6 bright line test for efficiency.

7 Q. So in your opinion as an economist,
8 it's a factor that is at least indirectly relevant
9 and so you do look at it to determine whether it
10 supports or doesn't support efficiency?

11 A. I think that's fair, yes.

12 Q. At the beginning of the analysis
13 period, Miller Energy was not eligible to use Form
14 S-3; correct?

15 A. That's my understanding, correct.

16 Q. For how long, at the beginning of the
17 analysis period, was Miller Energy ineligible to
18 use Form S-3? Do you need some help?

19 A. Give me just a second. I mean, I don't
20 know for certain off the top of my head what the
21 date was. I believe it was after they filed their
22 2011 10-K, but I just don't recall specifically. I
23 don't know what the date of that was or if that was
24 the precise date that they became S-3 eligible.

25 I know for certain they did issue S-3s

1 C. Coffman

2 during the class period so certainly by the time
3 they did that, they were S-3 eligible.

4 Q. Maybe I can help you. You do say in
5 paragraph 45 that among the requirements to be
6 eligible is the requirement that the company had
7 filed all documents in a timely manner for the past
8 12 months.

9 A. I see that.

10 Q. So does that help you determine how
11 long they were ineligible at the beginning of the
12 proposed class period or the analysis period?

13 A. I haven't determined precisely when
14 they met that requirement. It was certainly by
15 September 6, 2012, because they filed an S-3 at
16 that time, but precisely which date they became S-3
17 eligible, I don't recall.

18 Q. Was it not important to you for how
19 long they were ineligible?

20 A. Again, given that the essence of this
21 factor is, is there sufficient information
22 available about the company, I mean, I acknowledge
23 in my description that they weren't eligible for
24 certain portions. So obviously during those
25 portions, I wouldn't point at this factor for those

1 C. Coffman

2 particular periods as providing independent support
3 for efficiency, but certainly during the analysis
4 period, for most of it, they were S-3 eligible.

5 Q. So would you say that this factor
6 supports your finding of efficiency for the
7 portions of the analysis period when the company
8 was S-3 eligible only?

9 It's not a trick question.

10 A. I understand. I think it would be hard
11 to say, during the periods that it was ineligible,
12 that you would look at this factor independently as
13 providing evidence of efficiency.

14 Over most of the analysis period, it's
15 clear they were eligible and it does provide that
16 support, but when they were ineligible, technically
17 this factor doesn't support that.

18 Q. You can confirm that Miller Energy was
19 ineligible for the first full year of the class
20 period; correct?

21 A. I don't know that I could conclude
22 that, no.

23 Q. In paragraph 45, you indicate that one
24 requirement is that the company had filed all
25 documents in a timely manner for the past 12

1 C. Coffman

2 months; right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Do you know what started the class
5 period in this case, the proposed class period?
6 Are you aware that the class period began with the
7 filing of the Form 10-K, the second amended version
8 of the Form 10-K?

9 A. That does ring a bell now. I recall
10 there being an earnings announcement. I wasn't --
11 yes, I believe -- now that I'm thinking about it,
12 yes, that does make sense.

13 Q. So now you can confirm that, in fact,
14 the company was ineligible to use Form S-3 for the
15 first full year of the class period, correct,
16 proposed class period?

17 A. I believe that's probably correct, yes.

18 (Exhibit 26, Second Amended Form 10-K
19 for Miller Energy for the period ending April
20 30, 2011, marked for identification, as of
21 this date.)

22 MR. BALLARD: Let's mark this also as
23 27.

24 (Exhibit 27, detail printed from the
25 EDGAR website for Second Amended Form 10-K

1 C. Coffman

2 and the percent would be 11.76 percent? That's the
3 idea?

4 MS. POSNER: Objection.

5 A. That's the idea, yes.

6 Q. Of how you calculated it anyway?

7 A. That's the idea of how you calculate
8 the proportion, itself. There's more that goes
9 into how you statistically compare the difference,
10 but that's how you calculate the proportion, yes.

11 Q. You can't just eyeball it to see if
12 it's statistically significant, you have to
13 actually test it?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. If I want to go find the days that you
16 have identified as the 318 no news days, where do I
17 go to find that?

18 A. It's in our backup material, in my
19 backup material.

20 Q. I'm going to hand you what we
21 previously marked as Defendant's Exhibit 3 which is
22 a copy of the Second Amended Complaint in this
23 case. Have you read this?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. You're aware that this is the current

1 C. Coffman

2 complaint in this case; right?

3 A. That's my understanding, yes.

4 Q. Would you turn to page 74. Do you see
5 paragraph 200 on that page?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. In paragraph 200, plaintiffs allege
8 that "On December 24, 2013, a report entitled
9 'Miller Energy: Digging Itself Into Another Deep
10 Hole' was published by TheStreetSweeper."

11 Do you see that?

12 A. I see that.

13 Q. Was December 24, 2013, a news day or a
14 no news day in your analysis?

15 A. I would have to look at my backup
16 material to determine that.

17 Q. Sitting here today, you don't know?

18 A. I don't know.

19 Q. Do you have anything with you today
20 that would allow you to check that?

21 A. No.

22 Q. You didn't bring a laptop or anything
23 with the date on it?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Should December 24, 2013 have been

1 C. Coffman

2 treated as a no news day?

3 A. I don't know. It may depend on when
4 this particular report was issued to the market. I
5 know December 24th is Christmas Eve. Some years
6 Christmas Eve, I believe, is a non-trading day.
7 Sometimes it closes the -- the market closes early
8 on that day, so to know for sure, I would have to
9 do a more detailed analysis of when this report
10 came out.

11 Q. Look at paragraph 205, please. There
12 are allegations here about the price of the common
13 stock falling from the period December 23 to the
14 date December 26. Do you see that?

15 A. I see that.

16 Q. Does that help you determine whether
17 December 24 should be a news or a no news day?

18 A. I don't know because I can't read from
19 this whether December 24 is a trading day or not.

20 Q. If December 24 was a trading day,
21 should it have been treated in your analysis as a
22 news day or a no news day?

23 A. I would have to investigate further if
24 there was a way to tell what the timing of the
25 issuance of that report was.

1 C. Coffman

2 Q. Do you know if -- let me back up. You
3 said that you relied on certain sources to
4 determine what days were news days and what days
5 were no news days. I think you said Factiva, SEC
6 filings, and something else.

7 A. Analysts reports.

8 Q. Anything else?

9 A. As I sit here, not that I can recall.
10 To be absolutely sure, I would want to look at my
11 backup, but I don't believe so.

12 Q. So if the December 24, 2013 report
13 published by TheStreetSweeper didn't turn up in the
14 Factiva database and didn't turn up in the list of
15 analyst reports and didn't turn up in the SEC
16 filing, your methodology would not have captured it
17 and included that as a news day; correct?

18 A. That's possible. Whether we took into
19 account this particular report is something that I
20 would have to go back and look at my backup to
21 determine.

22 Q. If you go back and look at your backup
23 and you determine that December 24 was treated as a
24 no news day, would you say that's a mistake?

25 A. Not necessarily. It would depend on

1 C. Coffman

2 the timing of when that report was issued.

3 Q. If the report came out during the
4 business day, would you say it's a mistake?

5 A. By business day, do you mean during
6 market hours when the market was open?

7 Q. Trading day. Yes.

8 A. I mean, it's possible. Again, given
9 that the denominator in my calculations is 318,
10 changing one day wouldn't be expected to change
11 anything material, but, you know, based on
12 additional information, it may be that one day
13 would be better treated as a news day rather than a
14 non-news day. Without investigating it
15 specifically I just don't know.

16 Q. Well, I'm not really asking about
17 whether changing one day would affect the results.
18 I'm asking about your methodology, and it seems
19 like your methodology took into account certain
20 things like Factiva, but it didn't necessarily take
21 into account things like what the complaint in this
22 case was alleging.

23 MS. POSNER: Objection.

24 Q. So I'm wondering whether your
25 methodology might need a little bit of refinement.

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2 A. Again, determining whether this
3 particular report should have been treated as news
4 on that particular day is something I would have to
5 investigate.

6 Q. With a securities fraud case based on
7 allegations about stuff being said to the market or
8 not being said to the market, I mean, wouldn't the
9 complaint be a pretty important thing to consult on
10 what would be a news day versus a no news day?

11 A. I don't normally rely on the complaint
12 as a fact about when certain things were disclosed.
13 I usually verify that myself, so -- but like I
14 said, whether this report was part of what was
15 considered or wasn't considered, I just don't know
16 as I sit here.

17 Q. If you, in your analysis, missed a news
18 day that was identified in the complaint in this
19 case as a news day, what does that say about your
20 methodology?

21 A. I think that suggests possibly that
22 it's not absolutely perfect. Again, I wouldn't
23 expect something like that to -- an individual day
24 to impact the overall conclusion, and I believe the
25 methodology I've used to identify news days is

1 C. Coffman

2 filed publicly with the SEC?

3 A. It appears to say approximately 8:13
4 a.m., on July 16, 2013.

5 Q. From looking at this, can you now
6 confirm that the Q4 and year-end results that you
7 examined in event number 9 were disclosed prior to
8 the market opening on July 16, 2013?

9 A. That's what this seems to suggest.

10 Q. So now can you confirm that you should
11 have looked at a market date of July 16, 2013,
12 instead of July 17, 2013?

13 A. It's possible. One thing I would like
14 to do is review my backup to see if -- just to
15 confirm that these dates, as listed, weren't a typo
16 of some kind, but this seems to indicate the
17 information was out at the beginning of market on
18 July 16th, 2013.

19 (Exhibit 33, printout of some the
20 backup material used in Chad Coffman's expert
21 report, marked for identification, as of this
22 date.)

23 Q. I'm going to hand you what we've marked
24 as Exhibit 33. It's a printout of some of the
25 backup material that you provided to us, and the

1 C. Coffman

2 backup material was voluminous, but there's a
3 regression tab related to the common stock. Do you
4 know what I'm talking about?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Do you recognize this as the data from
7 that tab?

8 MS. POSNER: Just to be clear, I
9 believe we produced all of the Excel
10 spreadsheets, both Bates stamped and in
11 native format so you can manipulate them.
12 I'm going to assume you're representing that
13 this is as originally produced as opposed to
14 with any changes by you.

15 MR. BALLARD: I don't think I've seen
16 one with Bates numbers on it. We got Excel
17 files.

18 MS. POSNER: You should have gotten
19 both. We Bates stamped one and kept it so it
20 was a static version and then one in native
21 so you can manipulate it. It's irrelevant.

22 My only purpose for asking is, this is
23 as produced, there have been no changes to
24 this.

25 MR. BALLARD: This has been formatted

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2 for printing so it can be printed on a large
3 piece of paper. No one went and changed any
4 numbers in here. I have my laptop here and I
5 have the actual data files on here if anyone
6 needs to look at those.

7 MS. POSNER: I just wanted the record
8 to be clear.

9 MR. BALLARD: We did not change any of
10 the numbers.

11 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, what was your
12 question?

13 Q. I think we were talking about whether
14 you can confirm that you should have used July
15 16th, 2013, instead of July 17th, 2013 as the
16 market date for event number 9, and you indicated
17 that you might need to check some of your data.
18 Now this is some of your data.

19 Looking at this now, can you now
20 confirm that, in fact, you should have used July
21 16, 2013 as the market date?

22 A. That is certainly possible. Given that
23 you're pointing out what looks to be a mistake,
24 before I say on the record definitively, this is
25 something I would want to consult. I would want to

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2 study carefully before giving a final view on this
3 on the record, but based on what you've shown me,
4 unless there's something that contradicts it, it
5 appears July 16, 2013 would be the appropriate
6 market date.

7 Q. And did you find a statistically
8 significant price movement on July 16th, 2013?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Looking at your Exhibit 7, at event
11 number --

12 A. What is giving me pause, just to be
13 clear, is the specific time that is listed on
14 Exhibit 7 is raising a question in my mind of why
15 I'm citing 10:22 specifically, so I understand
16 necessarily the reason for that. So you've pointed
17 out something that concerns me. I just want to --
18 until I fully analyze this, I don't know what the
19 changes may be.

20 MR. BALLARD: Maybe I can help you with
21 that too.

22 THE WITNESS: Okay.

23 MR. BALLARD: I'll ask the court
24 reporter to mark this with our next exhibit
25 number.

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2 (Exhibit 34, printout from Marketwired,
3 marked for identification, as of this date.)

4 Q. Do you have Exhibit 34 in your hands?

5 A. I do.

6 Q. This is a printout from Marketwired.

7 Do you know what Marketwired is?

8 A. Generally. I don't have detailed
9 knowledge of exactly -- it looks like a wire
10 report. I don't know that I've studied
11 Marketwired. It looks like a wire service. I
12 don't know that I know that one specifically.

13 Q. It contains the information from the
14 earnings release that you included in the event 9
15 of your Exhibit 7.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. Do you see the date at the top of this
18 and the timestamp?

19 A. It appears to be 8:00 a.m. on July 16.

20 Q. So again, now can you confirm that the
21 information certainly was in the market and picked
22 up by the market press before trading began on July
23 16?

24 A. I see that. It suggests the
25 information came out before the market on July 16,

1 C. Coffman

2 2013.

3 Q. Now is there any doubt in your mind
4 that you should have used July 16, 2013, as the
5 market date for event 9?

6 A. Based on what you're showing me, it
7 appears that's the case, but again, before I give a
8 final view on that, I would need to go back and
9 review how that occurred.

10 MR. BALLARD: Maybe I can help you with
11 that too. Mark this, please.

12 (Exhibit 35, Dow Jones press release,
13 marked for identification, as of this date.)

14 Q. I'm handing you Exhibit 35. Does
15 reviewing Exhibit 35 help you clear up what
16 happened here?

17 A. Possibly.

18 Q. The Factiva database picked up the
19 correction on the newswire, but not the actual
20 original release, and so it showed a timestamp of
21 10:22 p.m. on July 16, 2016, even though the
22 information had come out the day before; right?

23 MS. POSNER: Objection.

24 A. I think it's -- I don't think your
25 question was quite right.

1 C. Coffman

2 Q. Do you have any idea how you came up
3 with 10:22 p.m. as the time and July 16, 2013 as
4 the date for event number 9 on your Exhibit 7?

5 A. It's possible that it was this Dow
6 Jones press release that was relied upon.

7 Q. This Dow Jones press release is not
8 what you were intending to study in number 9; is
9 it?

10 A. If the information was released prior
11 to the market on the 16th, then it would have been
12 appropriate to analyze July 16, 2013.

13 Q. And Exhibit 35, this Dow Jones newswire
14 item, relates to a correction of three numbers in
15 the previously released data; correct? Three
16 numbers that had been converted incorrectly; right?

17 A. I guess I don't know where -- exactly
18 where you're seeing that.

19 Q. The first paragraph.

20 A. Oh, I'm sorry. Okay, I see that.

21 Q. In event number 9, you weren't trying
22 to test whether the release of the correction of
23 these three incorrectly converted numbers had an
24 effect on the market; were you? You were trying to
25 test whether the earnings release, itself, had an

1 C. Coffman

2 effect; right?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Now can you confirm with certainty that
5 you should have used July 16, 2013 as the market
6 date for event number 9 on your Exhibit 7?

7 A. That seems to be the appropriate
8 conclusion. Again, to give a final answer, I would
9 want to discuss with my staff and see if there's
10 anything else that I'm missing here, but based on
11 what you've shown me, that appears to be correct.

12 Q. So sitting here right now, based on
13 everything you've seen, if you had to do this
14 analysis right now, what market date would you use,
15 July 16 or July 17?

16 A. Based on what I'm seeing here, July 16.

17 Q. So if that's your best understanding
18 right now, I want to ask you some questions about
19 what the items in that row should have in them.
20 Should item 9, in the first column, under date,
21 have July 15, 2013 instead of July 16, 2013?

22 A. Based on what you've shown me, I
23 believe that's correct, yes.

24 Q. And the time in column 2 should change
25 to something else too as well; right?

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A. Yes.

Q. The closing price should be \$4.09, not \$4.34; correct?

A. That's correct.

Q. The raw return should be 1.49 percent, not 6.11 percent; correct?

A. That's correct.

Q. The volume should be .3, not .5; correct?

A. Correct.

Q. The abnormal return should be 1.67 percent, not 5.56 percent; correct?

A. I'm sorry. Can you repeat that?

Q. The abnormal return should be 1.67 percent, not 5.56 percent; correct?

A. That's correct.

Q. The abnormal dollar change should be 7 cents, not 23 cents; correct?

A. That's correct.

Q. The t-stat should be .7, not 2.32; correct?

A. .70, that's correct.

Q. The sig level should not have any asterisk; correct?

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2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. There shouldn't be two, there shouldn't
4 be even one, there should be no asterisk at all for
5 event 9, it was not statistically significant;
6 correct?

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. Now would you say that it was only 3,
9 not 4, of the 17 events on Exhibit 7 of your report
10 that had statistically significant price movements
11 at the 95 confidence level?

12 A. If what you've shown me is correct,
13 then that's the case, yes.

14 Q. Can we turn to Exhibit 8 of your
15 report, please. On Exhibit 8 of your report, under
16 the earnings announcement column, where it says 4,
17 that should be a 3; right?

18 A. If what you're showing me is correct,
19 yes.

20 Q. For the number or the percentage of
21 significant days at 95 confidence level, where you
22 have 23.53 percent, that should be what?

23 A. I would need a calculator to give you
24 the precise number.

25 Q. If I tell you that 3 divided by 17

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2 would give you 17.65 percent, does that help?

3 A. That would be the appropriate number
4 then, that's correct.

5 Q. And then you have an average absolute
6 abnormal return of 4.37 percent on this chart. On
7 Exhibit 8 of your report, under the earnings
8 announcements column, for the average absolute
9 abnormal return, you have 4.37 percent. That
10 should change to something else; right?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And the volume figure of .7 should
13 change as well; right?

14 A. Yes. Both those numbers would go down,
15 I believe by a relatively small amount, but they
16 would be different, yes.

17 Q. So let's look at your report at page
18 30. There's a bar chart on page 30 of your report.
19 Do you see that?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So that should change as well; right?

22 A. If what you're showing me is correct,
23 then yes.

24 Q. So the first bar that is somewhere
25 above 20 percent is going to drop down to something

1 C. Coffman

2 lower; right?

3 A. Roughly 17 percent plus.

4 Q. And on page 31, you have a bar chart on
5 the average absolute return. Do you have that?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. That would change a little bit too;
8 right?

9 A. Yeah. I don't think that would change
10 substantially, but it would come down a little bit,
11 yes.

12 Q. On page 32, there's another chart on
13 average daily trading volume. Certainly the data
14 underlying, that would change a bit as well; right?

15 A. A bit, yes. I don't think it would
16 change substantially, but yes, it would be lower.

17 Q. Let's turn to page 29 of your report.
18 Paragraph 62, there's the reference to the 23.53
19 percent. Do you see that?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. That's wrong; right?

22 A. If what you're showing me is correct,
23 yes.

24 Q. And Footnote 61 is wrong; right?

25 A. It would be 17 percent instead of

1 C. Coffman

2 23.53.

3 Q. And you told us already you haven't
4 done an analysis to see if that is statistically
5 significant; right?

6 A. I would have to do that test to know.

7 Q. So sitting here today, you don't know
8 if it would be statistically significant based on
9 what you know now?

10 A. I would have to test that.

11 Q. And then paragraph 63, there's a 4.37
12 percent figure. Do you see that?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. That might change as well; right?

15 A. Well, we already covered that, yes.

16 Q. And then so Footnote 63 would change.
17 That's now wrong; right?

18 A. The percentage would change. Whether
19 the conclusion about statistical significance needs
20 to change is not clear.

21 Q. And then paragraph 63, again, there's a
22 reference to the average magnitude of stock price
23 movement on earnings announcement days was 1.7
24 times higher. You would have to take another look
25 at that one as well; right?

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2 A. It would be slightly lower. It might
3 still round to 1.7. I just don't know. I would
4 have to check.

5 Q. And then on page 31, paragraph 65,
6 there's a reference to average daily trading volume
7 on the 17 days of 0.72 million. Do you see that?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You would have to look at that again as
10 well; right?

11 A. That would go down slightly, yes.

12 Q. So going back to what we talked about
13 earlier, we looked at four of the events on your
14 Exhibit 7 for the year-end results for 2011, 2012,
15 2013 and 2014; right?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. And you had found a statistically
18 significant increase in the price of Miller
19 Energy's common stock in only one instance, and
20 that was for the year 2013; right?

21 A. Originally, that's correct.

22 Q. Based on what you have in Exhibit 7 of
23 your report and what you now know, can you now say
24 that there was no statistically significant
25 increase in the price of Miller Energy's common

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2 allegations are, but I, as a matter of fact, have
3 not evaluated whether it's the case or not.

4 MR. BALLARD: Let's take a short break.

5 THE VIDEO TECHNICIAN: We're going off
6 the record. The time is 2:28 p.m.

7 (Recess taken.)

8 THE VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This begins
9 Media Unit No. 4. The time is 2:59 p.m.
10 We're back on the record.

11 Q. Turning to your report, at page 29,
12 Footnote 61 --

13 MS. POSNER: What page did you say?

14 MR. BALLARD: Page 29, Footnote 61.

15 Q. I believe you indicated earlier that
16 you have not done the analysis as to whether you
17 would still find statistical significance at the 95
18 confidence level if it was 3 out of 17 instead of 4
19 out of 17; right?

20 A. That's what I said before.

21 Q. You haven't done the analysis now; have
22 you?

23 A. I did a back of the envelope
24 calculation that I would want to check several
25 times before I, you know, was highly confident in

1 C. Coffman

2 it, but it suggested that just changing it to 3 out
3 of 17, it would still be significant at the 95
4 percent level.

5 Q. Are you ready to express that opinion
6 or do you need to do more work on that first?

7 A. No. Given what you've pointed out,
8 there are likely to be corrections to my report and
9 before I express any final opinion on that, I would
10 want to review a number of different things.

11 Q. I think earlier you also said that if
12 you had removed the Cammer 5 factor entirely from
13 your report, you hadn't evaluated whether you would
14 still have an opinion on market efficiency without
15 that; right?

16 A. I think I said that there would be lots
17 of -- that there would be considerable economic
18 evidence towards efficiency from the other factors,
19 but I had not considered the possibility of
20 explicitly removing Cammer 5 from my report.

21 Q. And I believe you said you hadn't given
22 it thought and don't have an opinion sitting here
23 today as whether removing that, you would still
24 have an opinion.

25 A. Well, again, I said I wasn't sure why

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2 one would ever do that given the circumstances of
3 this case, but I have not considered whether just
4 totally removing Cammer 5, what the conclusion
5 would be.

6 Q. Sitting here right now, you're not able
7 to express an opinion on the question of whether
8 there was a cause and effect relationship until you
9 do further analysis.

10 Given what you have just said, do you
11 have an opinion, sitting here right now, on whether
12 the market for the common stock was efficient
13 during the analysis period?

14 MS. POSNER: Objection.

15 A. Based on the analysis I've performed,
16 it's clear that there is a much greater -- that
17 there's a greater incidence of statistically
18 significant days on the earnings announcements,
19 that's there's greater absolute stock price
20 movements, greater volume.

21 Also just, you know, setting aside
22 or -- not setting aside. In addition to the
23 analysis that's in my report, it's clear from just
24 a cursory review of certain other dates during the
25 class period that the stock price was moving in

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2 reaction to news. It wasn't part of what is
3 included in my report, but I still believe that
4 even with the material you showed me today, that
5 there's a -- that this security traded in an
6 efficient market.

7 Q. I understand you believe that. But my
8 question is, do you have, as a professional
9 economist, an opinion sitting here today as to
10 whether the market for the common stock of Miller
11 Energy was efficient during the analysis period?

12 A. I believe it was efficient during the
13 analysis period, yes, and I -- like I said, I want
14 to -- given what you've shown me, I want to go back
15 and review certain items and evaluate certain
16 items, but I do believe that it traded in an
17 efficient market, yes.

18 Q. You keep saying you believe.

19 A. That's my opinion.

20 Q. That is your opinion sitting here
21 today?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Have you provided us with all the
24 backup and basis for that opinion or do you still
25 need to do more?

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2 A. Yes. I think given what you've shown
3 me, I will likely prepare a corrected version of
4 the report and so at that point I believe I will
5 have given you the full basis that I'm using to
6 conclude that the market is efficient. But this
7 alone does not change my opinion of the market
8 efficiency.

9 Q. Do you expect that you will be revising
10 your exhibits as well?

11 A. Based on what you've shown me, there
12 will likely be revisions to my exhibits, yes.

13 Q. We got a large dump of data, Excel
14 spreadsheets and the like. That will change as
15 well; right?

16 A. I don't think anything in the event
17 study, itself, will change, but the summaries from
18 that event study will change. So it's -- there
19 will be materials in the backup that would change,
20 yes.

21 Q. Do you know how long it will take to do
22 that work?

23 A. I don't know with any precision.

24 Q. I'd like you to take a look at Exhibit
25 3 which is the Second Amended Complaint, and I'll

1 C. Coffman

2 the nature of the misstatements, whether or not
3 they would be expected to move the stock price.

4 For example, if plaintiffs were using the price
5 maintenance theory, then they might not be expected
6 to move the stock price on the misstatement or
7 omission dates, especially if there were omissions,
8 but on the corrective disclosures, my understanding
9 is they're alleging the price declined on certain
10 corrective dates that reflects the dissipation of
11 artificial inflation.

12 Q. So, so far, we've gone through six
13 dates, the four alleged misstatement dates and the
14 first of the two corrective disclosure dates, and
15 we don't have a statistically significant movement
16 in response to any of them on the first day; right?

17 MS. POSNER: Objection.

18 A. Well, in reviewing plaintiffs'
19 complaint, there's an allegation that the allegedly
20 false and misleading audit opinion was first issued
21 on August 29th, which according to my event study,
22 was statistically significant. So it's not clear
23 to me that that's correct.

24 Q. So are you now saying the year-end
25 results for 2011 came out on August 29?

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2 A. That's a possibility I need to
3 investigate.

4 Q. So you may have another error on your
5 Exhibit 7?

6 A. Well, given that you pointed out that I
7 apparently inadvertently relied on a Dow Jones
8 correction, I guess I would like to go back and
9 review the details of each of these dates to make
10 sure I'm selecting the right date, and I'm saying
11 as of right now, there does appear to be a
12 suggestion that August 29th may have been the right
13 date to analyze.

14 Q. So we went through event 9 and talked
15 about how your report and exhibits might change if
16 you use the right data. You're now saying that
17 event 1 might also be incorrect?

18 A. It's possible.

19 Q. Are you sure you still have an opinion
20 sitting here today about whether the market was
21 efficient?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Even without the data?

24 A. No. As I said, I believe there's
25 sufficient evidence, based on the higher proportion

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2 of significant dates, that if what I'm saying about
3 event 1 is right, that would actually improve the
4 numbers, and my review of all the other Cammer
5 factors and my review of other dates that I noted
6 during the class period which showed statistically
7 significant movements in response to clear new
8 news, it's my professional opinion that the market
9 for the common stock was efficient.

10 I believe based on what you've shown me
11 today, there's some important details in my report
12 that I want to revisit, but nothing has changed my
13 view as to whether the market is efficient or not.

14 Q. So for Exhibit 7, you're saying you
15 looked at 19 events, 19 events; right?

16 A. 17.

17 Q. Sorry, 17. Not a big number, 17
18 events. We know you got one of them wrong and
19 you're saying you might have gotten two of them
20 wrong, but one mistake was one direction and the
21 other mistake might have been the other direction
22 so it offsets?

23 A. I'm not saying that at all yet. I'm
24 saying that there's details I want to go back and
25 review.

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2 on the nine news or event days with the results you
3 found on the no news days; right?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. So for this analysis here, you included
6 earnings releases as well as certain other events;
7 right?

8 A. That's correct, yes.

9 Q. On the common stock, you looked at only
10 earnings releases; right?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. Why a different methodology?

13 A. Because the Series C and Series D were
14 offered -- a couple of different reasons. Number
15 one, they're offered later in the class period.

16 Number two, over the period in which
17 they're trading at par value, I wouldn't, for the
18 reasons described, wouldn't expect them to respond
19 to quarterly earnings announcements frequently. So
20 that was going to leave me with a small sample size
21 of dates to test.

22 Three would not be -- I think there's
23 three earnings announcements over the relevant
24 period for performing this test so I attempted to
25 identify an additional category or categories of

1 C. Coffman

2 dates that would be relevant to test.

3 Q. Wait a minute. This analysis here on
4 Exhibit 9 is for the period when you said after
5 October 15, 2014, you would expect the market
6 prices of the preferred C series shares to react to
7 earnings announcements; right?

8 A. Or at least could potentially, but I
9 describe in the report how I'm not surprised that
10 they don't, given that the market price of the
11 common stock didn't react to these particular
12 earnings announcements either.

13 Q. If you look at Exhibit 9 for this C
14 series and you look at the earnings releases, that
15 would be events 2, 4 and 8; right?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. And the price of the preferred stock,
18 the C series, never reacted in a statistically
19 significant way to an earnings release; correct?

20 MS. POSNER: Objection.

21 A. That's correct, and what I'm saying is
22 that that's not in any way inconsistent with market
23 efficiency given that the common stock didn't react
24 significantly to those either.

25 Q. If you used the same methodology for

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2 the C series that you did for the common stock, you
3 would have found no cause and effect relationship
4 between the release of new information and
5 movements in the price of the preferred stock; is
6 that correct?

7 A. Well, if you're saying if I had used
8 the exact same precise methodology, I suppose
9 that's true, but there's reasons not to do that
10 that are described in the report, and I do follow
11 the same general methodology, which is to analyze
12 dates with clear firm-specific news and compare it
13 to dates where there's no firm-specific news.

14 So the overall methodology is the same.
15 It's just I have a criteria for identifying
16 additional dates for the Series C preferred stock
17 and Series D preferred stock that I believe speak
18 to -- that are potentially material events for the
19 company that provide relevant evidence about market
20 efficiency by testing those dates.

21 Q. To be clear, on Exhibit 11, you can
22 confirm that the price of the Series D preferred
23 also never reacted in a statistically significant
24 way to an earnings release; correct?

25 MS. POSNER: Objection.

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2 A. Correct, and for the same reasons I
3 responded to the Series C question, that did not
4 surprise me.

5 Q. Can you look at Exhibit 2-C, please.

6 A. Okay.

7 Q. What is this intended to show?

8 A. It's just a graphical display of this
9 particular information, what the closing price of
10 the Series C preferred stock was, when the end of
11 the analysis period was in the event that -- is the
12 end of the analysis period, and then identifies the
13 specific offerings that at least I was aware of
14 that occurred during the analysis period.

15 Q. And this shows stock price as well as
16 volume data?

17 A. I'm sorry, I left out the volume, yes.
18 It shows the closing price of the Series C and the
19 volume of the Series C on each day.

20 Q. So you're saying, looking at this
21 chronology here, prior to the middle of October
22 2014, you would expect the price not to be reacting
23 to company specific news, only interest rate
24 movements?

25 MS. POSNER: Objection.

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2 Q. Mr. Coffman, could you turn to page 49
3 of your report, please.

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. This is where you talk about damages,
6 and in the carryover paragraph you indicate that
7 plaintiffs' complaint alleges -- I'm sorry. Hold
8 on. I've got the wrong page. On pages 48 through
9 49 --

10 A. It starts on 47.

11 Q. I'm sorry, you're right. So let's go
12 back. From page 47 onward, you have a discussion
13 of 10(b)5 damages as well as Section 11 damages;
14 right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And let's talk about Section 11 damages
17 first. In Section 11, there's a statutory formula
18 that you mention in your report. Right?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And you quote it here. It states in
21 part that you calculate damages for a Section 11
22 claim in part based on the difference between the
23 amount paid for the security not exceeding the
24 price at which the security was offered to the
25 public, and then the sale price, and there's

1 C. Coffman

2 several ways that can be calculated; right?

3 A. Yes, not just the sales price but
4 there's a number of different potential prices or
5 values that you compare against based on when the
6 shares sold.

7 Q. Depending on whether you held it
8 forever or whether you sold it during the class
9 period or the like; right?

10 A. Or I think it's technically not the
11 class period, but the date of suit, or there's -- I
12 mean, it says what it says.

13 Q. Got it. But the point is, for any of
14 these damages calculations, you need to know the
15 price at which the security was initially offered
16 to the public; correct?

17 A. That's one element of the calculation,
18 yes.

19 Q. Well, let's take a look at Mr. Ziesman.
20 Do you have his certification? It was Exhibit 37.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. So Mr. Ziesman, as we've noted earlier,
23 purchased in June of 2014 at a price of \$25.43 per
24 share basically. Right?

25 A. Slightly below that, but yes, it rounds

1 C. Coffman

2 to that.

3 Q. He purchased at a price that was higher
4 than any of the initial offering prices for the C
5 series securities; is that correct?

6 A. That's my understanding, yes.

7 Q. So his damages will be limited by the
8 statutory formula; is that correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. To know what his damages are, you need
11 to know which offering his shares came from; is
12 that correct?

13 A. Well, you could make a statement about
14 that his -- the offering price wasn't below a
15 certain number so you could use the lowest offering
16 price and say that his damages would be at least
17 that much, but --

18 Q. To accurately calculate his damages,
19 you need to know which offering his shares came
20 from, correct, according to the statutory formula?

21 A. Like I said, I think there's a way to
22 calculate it conservatively, but to precisely base
23 it on the offering that that individual security
24 was bought in, I don't know if that's necessary,
25 but if it is, then what I'm describing would be a

1 C. Coffman

2 conservative estimate, but not necessarily the
3 precise amount of damages that he might be entitled
4 to.

5 Q. If his shares came from the initial
6 offering in October 2012 at \$23 per share, his
7 damages would be capped based on the \$23 amount
8 under the statutory formula; correct?

9 A. Could I have that read back.

10 Q. I'll restate it. If Mr. Ziesman's
11 shares came from the October 12 offering in which
12 shares were sold at \$23 per share, the statutory
13 formula would limit his damages based on the \$23
14 initial share price; correct?

15 A. That's my understanding, yes.

16 Q. If his shares came from the offering in
17 February 2013, when shares were offered at \$22.90
18 per share, his damages would be limited based on
19 that number; correct?

20 A. I'm assuming you're quoting those
21 numbers right without looking at them, but yes, it
22 would be limited based on the offering price as of
23 that date.

24 Q. If his shares came from the
25 at-the-market offering, his damages would be

1 C. Coffman

2 limited under the statutory formula to whatever the
3 original at-the-market offering price was for those
4 particular shares; correct?

5 A. That's my understanding, yes.

6 Q. Do you know if his shares,
7 Mr. Ziesman's shares, came from the October 2012
8 offering?

9 A. I don't.

10 Q. Do you know if they came from the
11 at-the-market offering?

12 A. I don't.

13 Q. Do you know if they came from the 2013
14 best efforts offering?

15 A. You're referring to the at-the-market
16 offering?

17 Q. No. There was an at-the-market
18 offering in October 2012 and then a best efforts
19 underwriting in February of 2013.

20 A. I don't know.

21 Q. Do you know if his shares came from the
22 May 2013 offering?

23 A. I don't know.

24 Q. Do you know if his shares came from the
25 June 27 offering?

1 C. Coffman

2 A. I don't know.

3 Q. So you can't say what Mr. Ziesman's
4 damages would be under the statutory formula; isn't
5 that fair?

6 MS. POSNER: Objection.

7 A. If it's unclear which offering it came
8 from, I haven't determined whether that's
9 determinable or not, but if it can't be determined,
10 the best one could do is the most conservative
11 estimate of his damages.

12 Q. Well, the statutory formula says
13 damages are calculated based on the difference
14 between the amount paid for the security not
15 exceeding the price at which the security was
16 offered. Right?

17 A. Yeah, and all I'm suggesting is that
18 one could make a statement saying that his damages
19 would be at least a certain amount if the -- if you
20 could base it off of the lowest offering price.

21 Q. So if we go back to that statutory
22 formula and the parenthetical "not exceeding the
23 price," you would be calculating damages by a
24 formula where you would insert the word "lower"
25 before the word "price," so the formula in the

1 C. Coffman

2 statute would be calculated based on the difference
3 between the amount paid for the security not
4 exceeding the lowest price at which the security
5 was offered to the public?

6 A. No.

7 MS. POSNER: Objection.

8 A. I'm not rewriting the statute. You're
9 asking me -- again, I'm not -- it's not clear to me
10 what offering he purchased in. It's not clear to
11 me whether or not that information would ultimately
12 be available.

13 I'm just saying that even if one
14 couldn't determine his damages precisely based on
15 the formula, if there was ambiguity about which
16 offering he bought in, you could still make a
17 statement potentially about the lowest amount of
18 damages if it could be traced back to at least an
19 offering that was at issue in the case. I'm not --

20 That's all I'm saying. As a matter of
21 math, you could identify that damages were at least
22 some certain amount if you were able to trace it
23 back to an offering that is at issue in the case.

24 Q. You couldn't determine what his precise
25 damages are under the statutory formula without

1 C. Coffman

2 being able to trace his shares back to a particular
3 offering. Isn't that a fact?

4 A. I don't think you could identify the
5 precise damages. I think I already testified to
6 that, yes.

7 Q. And yet you have given an opinion in
8 this case that you believe it would be possible to
9 calculate Section 11 damages on a class-wide basis;
10 is that not right? That was the opinion you stated
11 in your report?

12 A. Well, I say -- again, embedded in
13 paragraph 101 of my report is the idea that the
14 purchase was made pursuant or traceable to the
15 offering documents. So if there's a determination
16 that based on what you're showing me, it can't be
17 traced, then that's not part of what would be
18 calculated.

19 If it can be traced, I'm saying I could
20 make a statement about if it could be traced back
21 to multiple offerings, one of multiple offerings
22 that are part of the case, I could make a statement
23 about that the damages were at least a certain
24 amount, but I could not calculate the precise
25 damages, so I could come up with a conservative

1 C. Coffman

2 estimate.

3 Q. So for now, we're only talking about
4 Mr. Ziesman; right?

5 A. That's my understanding of what your
6 question is.

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. So now let's talk about the entirety of
10 the proposed Section 11 class. Is it your
11 testimony that you can calculate damages under the
12 Section 11 formula for the proposed Section 11
13 class in this case?

14 A. My understanding of the definition of
15 the class is people who purchased pursuant to or
16 traceable to the offering documents, so that
17 some -- that the definition of the class would only
18 include people for which you could at least trace
19 back to an offering, and I'm saying that while one
20 might not be able to calculate precise damages for
21 each investor, one would be able to calculate a
22 minimum amount.

23 Q. I'm not asking if you can calculate a
24 minimum amount. I'm asking if you can calculate
25 the damages according to what you said is a

1 C. Coffman

2 statutory formula that can be applied on a
3 class-wide basis. You can't; can you?

4 A. I don't think you can apply precisely
5 the wording in here if you don't know which
6 offering to trace it back to.

7 Q. And you looked at volume data for the
8 Series C shares; didn't you?

9 A. I did.

10 Q. They traded, in your opinion, quite
11 frequently?

12 A. They did trade quite frequently.

13 Q. They turned over more than, on average,
14 two times a year; right?

15 A. That's true, yes.

16 Q. Mr. Ziesman goes into his Scottrade
17 account in June of 2014 and buys 1,000 shares of C
18 series stock. By that time, the C series has been
19 trading and trading and trading in high volume for
20 a long period of time; correct?

21 A. On average, they were trading more than
22 the average security on the exchange, so there was
23 a lot of volume, yes.

24 Q. So his shares are likely to have traded
25 multiple times between the initial offering date,

1 C. Coffman

2 whenever that was, and we don't know when it was,
3 and when he purchased them; right?

4 MS. POSNER: Objection.

5 A. I don't know that you can conclude that
6 those particular shares traded multiple times. I
7 just don't know.

8 Q. There's just no way to know; right?

9 MS. POSNER: Objection.

10 A. It's not clear whether there may or may
11 not be records that would allow one to trace it
12 back to a particular offering. I'm just saying I
13 don't have any information that would allow me to
14 do that as I sit here.

15 Q. Is the same true for the Series D
16 shares, you don't know how or whether a particular
17 plaintiff would be able to trace their shares back
18 to a particular offering?

19 MS. POSNER: Objection.

20 A. If they bought it in the offering
21 itself, they presumably could. If they bought in
22 the secondary market, only after the first offering
23 and not additional offerings, they might be able
24 to.

25 And again, whether they could after a

1 C. Coffman

2 secondary offering, I think would depend on what
3 evidence there might be, but I don't know of any as
4 I sit here.

5 Q. So a plaintiff who actually bought in
6 one of the offerings at the offering price, for
7 that plaintiff, you could calculate their damages
8 accurately under the statutory formula?

9 A. Absolutely, yes.

10 Q. It's just the people who bought in the
11 aftermarket where you don't know?

12 MS. POSNER: Objection.

13 A. Again, I think with the exception of
14 people who bought after the first offering before
15 there were any secondary offerings, one could
16 logically trace back to the initial offering.

17 Q. You're talking about the D series now?

18 A. Theoretically, that would be true for
19 both series.

20 Q. Well, the first few offerings of C
21 series are outside of the period and aren't at
22 issue in this case so you could never trace back to
23 those.

24 MS. POSNER: Objection.

25 Q. I guess let me ask you this: You've

1 C. Coffman

2 testified you could calculate damages for the
3 Section 11 claim for the C series shares. How
4 would you do that?

5 A. Well, for somebody that bought in one
6 of the offerings, you would follow the statutory
7 formula. For somebody that bought in the
8 aftermarket, you would have to evaluate if there
9 was a way to trace it back to one or a series of
10 the offerings that are relevant in the case, and
11 like I said, you could -- you might not be able to
12 calculate the damages precisely, but you could get
13 a lower bound estimate of what those damages would
14 be.

15 Q. In your report, at paragraph 102, you
16 wrote, "Given that there is a statutorily defined
17 formula for Section 11 damages, it is clear that
18 damages under Section 11 can be calculated using a
19 common methodology for members of the Section 11
20 class."

21 Do you see that in paragraph 102?

22 A. Yes, and I'm stating that with respect
23 to what I say in paragraph 101 is my understanding
24 that it has to be pursuant or traceable to the
25 offering documents at issue in the case.

1 C. Coffman

2 Q. So if a plaintiff didn't purchase any
3 offering, like Mr. Ziesman, and can't trace to a
4 particular offering, you can't calculate that
5 plaintiff's damages under the statutory formula; is
6 that fair?

7 A. I think it would be difficult to do
8 that with precision. One might be able to say what
9 the minimum amount of damages are, but it would be
10 hard to know which precise offering price to use in
11 the formula.

12 Q. Let's turn back to the complaint in
13 this case, the Second Amended Complaint, Exhibit 3,
14 and I want to direct your attention again to
15 paragraph 197. That's the beginning of the section
16 on the allegation that "the truth begins to
17 emerge." Do you have that in front of you?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Before we dig into that, I want to
20 direct your attention to one other paragraph
21 earlier in the complaint, paragraph 4.

22 In paragraph 4, plaintiffs allege "The
23 Miller Energy house of cards finally began to
24 collapse in December 2013, when it started to
25 become clear that the Alaska Assets were worth

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)

:

COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

I, ELEANOR GREENHOUSE, a Shorthand Reporter
and Notary Public within and for the State of New
York, do hereby certify:

That, CHAD COFFMAN, the witness whose
deposition is hereinbefore set forth, was duly
sworn by me and that such deposition is a true
record of the testimony given by such witness.

I further certify that I am not related to
any of the parties to this action by blood or
marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the
outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
hand this 14th day of April, 2019.



ELEANOR GREENHOUSE